विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और कार्मिक, लोक-शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती वसुन्धरा राजे): (क) से (घ) भारत सरकार के मंत्रालयों/विभागों से यह अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वे केन्द्रीय सतर्कता-आयोग की सलाह के अनुसार कार्य करें। फिर भी, भारत सरकार के मंत्रालय/विभागों द्वारा केन्द्रीय सतर्कता-आयोग की सलाह के नहीं माने जाने के मामले उक्त आयोग की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट में दर्शाए जाते हैं। अभी केन्द्रीय-सतर्कता-आयोग से वर्ष, 1998 की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

Repair of Storage Tank by IOC

2718. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government have been drawn to news-item captioned "Demurrage costs rising due to IOC's lapse" as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated the 4th January, 1999.

(b) if so, whether the IOC have not undertaken any timely repairs of storage tanks resulting loss of revenue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check such lapses by Oil Companies in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of total 1932 tanks at marketing terminals, installations and Depots of Indian Oil Corporation only 51 tanks are at present out of service for repair and maintenance.

(d) Import of Petroleum Products is planned having regard to the processing schedule of refineries, the monthly demand pattern within the country and the need to maintain strategic inventory levels. The oil industry incurs demurrage partly due to non-availability of berth/ullage and partly due to requirement of keeping some inventory floating in the High Seas. With a view to optimise utilisation of available port infrastructure and to achieve reduction in the detention of the tankers, a number of steps have been initiated by the oil industries. These interalia, include commissioning of two virtual jetties at Kandla, offshore literage of product import tankers at Kandla, commissioning of Kandla — Bhatinda pipeline/augmentation of tankage at coastal locations, commissioning of second SBM at Vadinar etc.

Scheme for Distribution of kerosene at Block Level

2719. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme for distribution of kerosene at block levels through appointment of unemployed youths as dealers under P.M's Self Employment Scheme;

(b) if so, furnish details thereof alongwith targets for 1999-2000 alongwith marketing plans for districts of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra; and

(c) the deails of implementation of normal marketing plan for kerosene, gas and petroleum products of oil companies in Vidarbha and reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Recently Government has launched Prime Minister's Self Employment Scheme of oil compaines under which, oil companies will set up at least one SKO dealership in each develoment block of the country. Accordingly, oil companies have planned around 5700 SKO/LDO retail dealerships for all over the country. 298 locations have been identified for Maharashtra including for Vidharbha Region of Maharashta. These dealership are planned to be commissioned during 1999-2000.